

**CANOLFAN ADDYSG Y BONT**  
**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**



Canolfan Addysg y Bont fully acknowledges its responsibilities towards child protection in accordance with the Whole of Wales Child Protection Guidelines 2008.

Our policy is relevant to the whole staff, governors and volunteers who work with children.

There are five main elements to the policy:

- Ensure that we implement safe recruitment practices by checking staff and volunteers' suitability to work with children.
- Raise awareness of child protection issues and equip children with the skills that are necessary to keep them safe.
- Develop and implement procedures to identify and refer cases or concern regarding abuse.
- Support pupils who have been abused in accordance with their agreed protection plan.
- Set up a safe environment where pupils can learn and develop.

We acknowledge that school staff, due to their daily contact with the pupils, are in a good situation to observe the external signs of abuse. The school therefore:

- Sets up and maintains an environment where pupils can feel safe, where they are encouraged to express themselves, and where they are listened to.
- Ensures that the pupils know that there are adults in school to whom they can turn if they are worried.
- Includes opportunities in the curriculum for pupils to develop the skills that they need to recognize abuse and keep safe from it.

The school follows the procedures that have been placed in the "Whole of Wales Child Protection Guidelines" document adopted by the County's Child Protection Committee, and that pays attention to guidelines published by the Welsh Assembly Government, in order to:

- Ensure that we have a child protection designated teacher who has received training and support. (Mr Andreas Huws – Head Teacher).
- Ensure that we have a nominated governor for child protection. Mrs Eileen Clarke.
- Ensure that every member of staff, every governor and every volunteer know the name of the child protection designated teacher.
- Ensure that the whole staff and volunteers understand their responsibility by being awake to signs of abuse and the responsibility upon them to refer concerns to the child protection designated teacher.

- Acknowledge every member of staff and volunteer's right to "ring a bell" by including clear references to the procedure in training and in school documents.
- Ensure that parents are aware of the responsibility placed upon the school and the staff in the child protection area by including those implications in the school prospectus.
- Develop effective links with the relevant agencies and work together as required with their child protection enquiries.
- Keep written records regarding concerns about pupils, even where there is no reason to refer the matter directly.
- Ensure that records are kept under lock and key, and apart from the pupil's educational records.
- Follow the relevant procedures when a member of staff or volunteer faces an allegation against him/her.
- Ensure that safe recruiting practices are followed at all times.

We acknowledge that pupils who have been abused or who have witnessed abuse have difficulty in developing a sense of self-worth. They can feel despair, shame or blame. A school can be the only stable element in the child's life. When he/she is in school the pupil's behavior can be challenging or introverted. The school will endeavor to support the pupil through:

- curriculum contents
- Whole-school ethos that promotes a safe, supportive and positive environment, where the pupil is appreciated as an individual.
- School behavioral policy that aims to support pupils who are in danger. The school ensures that the pupil knows that some kinds of behavior are unacceptable but also that they are appreciated and that they are not at fault for any abuse.
- Maintain contact with other agencies that provide support for the pupil.
- Ensure that information is transferred directly to a receiving school, when a pupil who has his/her name on a child protection register leaves the school, and also that the pupil's social worker is informed

This policy is revised annually.

Signed (Chair of Governors) \_\_\_\_\_.

Date September 2014.